Indiana Crop & Weather Report

United States Dept of Agriculture

Indiana Agricultural Statistics Service | 1435 Win Hentschel Blvd. Suite B105 | West Lafayette, IN 47906-4145 (765) 494-8371

Released: June 30, 2003

Vol. 53, No. 26

CROP REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING JUNE 29

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

Open weather allowed farmers the opportunity to make excellent progress with field activities during the week, according to the Indiana Agricultural Statistics Service. Southern area farmers had the best week this season for fieldwork. Winter wheat harvest made good progress in the southwestern regions. Warmer temperatures and sunshine continued to help growth and development of corn and soybeans. Most farmers were able to finish up planting of corn. Soybean planting made good progress in the southern regions. Second cutting of hay crops was underway in some areas. Weeds remain a problem in many soybean fields. Spraying for weeds and insects took place on many fields last week.

FIELD CROPS REPORT

There were 6.1 **days suitable for fieldwork**. Virtually all of the corn acreage is now planted. Many farmers were cultivating and side dressing corn fields during the week. Height of corn varies significantly around the state, from small to over waist high in some early planted fields. Corn **condition** is rated 58 percent good to excellent compared with 62 percent last year at this time.

Ninety-five percent of the **soybean** acreage is planted compared with 98 percent last year and 98 percent for the average. By area, 100 percent of the soybean acreage is planted in the north, 99 percent in the central region and 81 percent in the south. Eighty-nine percent of the soybean acreage has **emerged** compared with 94 percent last year and 96 percent for the average. Soybean **condition** is rated 54 percent good to excellent compared with 61 percent last year at this time

Thirty-six percent of the winter wheat acreage is **harvested**. Winter wheat **condition** is rated 67 percent good to excellent compared with 50 percent last year at this time. Winter wheat is now turning color in many of the northern regions of the state.

Major activities during the week were spraying, side-dressing corn, cultivating, repairing and cleaning up equipment, moving grain to market, mowing and baling hay and taking care of livestock.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE REPORT

Pasture condition is rated 16 percent excellent, 59 percent good, 21 percent fair, 3 percent poor and 1 percent very poor. First cutting of **alfalfa** hay is 95 percent complete compared with 97 percent last year and 98 percent for average. Setting of **tobacco** plants is 84 percent complete compared with 93 percent last year and 91 percent for average. Livestock are in mostly good condition.

CROP PROGRESS TABLE

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Avg
	Percent			
Corn Silked	0	NA	0	1
Soybeans Planted	95	90	98	98
Soybeans Emerged	89	84	94	96
Winter Wheat Harvested	36	11	40	38
Tobacco Plants Set	84	55	93	91
Alfalfa First Cutting	95	84	97	98

CROP CONDITION TABLE

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excel-lent
			Percent		
Corn	2	10	30	46	12
Soybean	1	9	36	46	8
Pasture	1	3	21	59	16
Winter Wheat 2003	1	8	24	51	16

SOIL MOISTURE & DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK TABLE

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
		Percent	
Topsoil			
Very Short	2	0	4
Short	18	5	21
Adequate	64	64	64
Surplus	16	31	11
Subsoil			
Very Short	1	0	1
Short	12	6	11
Adequate	71	67	74
Surplus	16	27	14
Days Suitable	6.1	4.5	5.5

CONTACT INFORMATION

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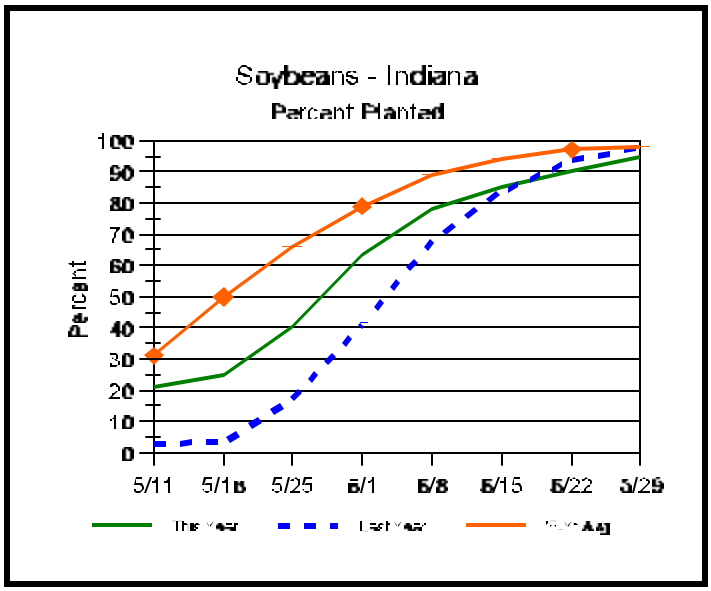
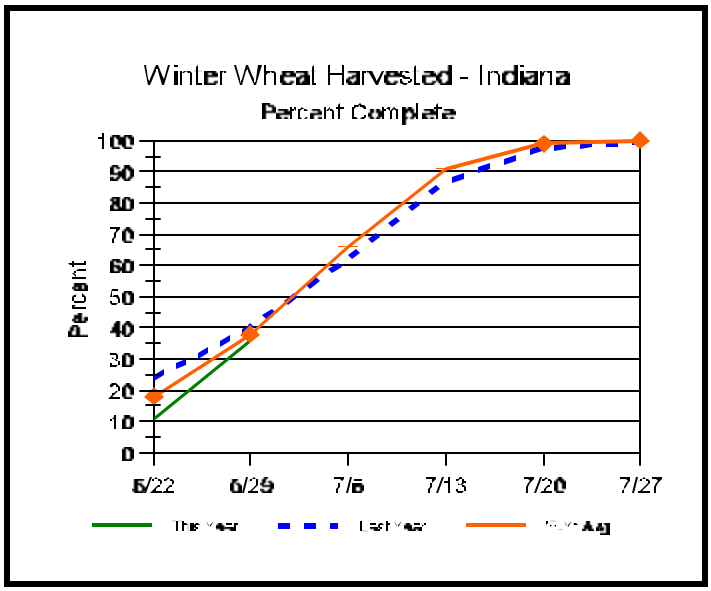
Crop Progress





Other Agricultural Comments And News

Wheat Diseases

- Severe disease in southern Indiana

Scab (*Fusarium* head blight) is severe in southern Indiana. Incidence of blighted heads ranges from 10% to 80% in variety trials near Vincennes, Butlerville, and Evansville. The disease is likely to be equally severe in commercial wheat fields throughout this region.

When healthy heads are still green, it is easy to spot blighted heads because they are prematurely white. The entire head or only a portion of the head may be blighted. Once healthy heads begin to lose their color, as kernels progress to the soft dough stage of development, it is more difficult to assess the amount of scab based on the frequency of blighted heads. By this stage of development, there is not a striking difference between blighted heads and heads that are turning white naturally. If the air is humid, blighted heads may have a conspicuous salmon-pink color at the base of spikelets, whereas naturally maturing, healthy heads will not. In the corn belt, the fungus *Fusarium graminearum* is the primary cause of scab, but other species of *Fusarium* may also be involved. Masses of spores produced by *Fusarium graminearum* on infected heads are the source of the pink color.

Spikelets infected early by the scab fungus may not produce any grain. Spikelets infected later may produce small, shriveled kernels that have a dull white or pinkish cast. These are referred to as tombstones, and the endosperm of such kernels is largely replaced by mycelium of the fungus. However, even kernels that appear to be healthy may be infected by *Fusarium graminearum*.

In addition to the low yield and test weight that a field with scab will produce, there is the added concern of mycotoxins in the grain. These are toxic compounds produced by the fungus. The principal mycotoxin produced by *Fusarium graminearum* is deoxynivalenol, commonly referred to as DON or vomitoxin. In general, the greater the incidence of visibly scabby grain in a sample of wheat, the greater the level of DON. Tombstones can have very high levels of DON, but grain that is not visibly scabby may also contain the toxin.

The US Food and Drug Administration advises that finished wheat products contain no more than 1 ppm

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Weather Information Table

Week ending Sunday June 29, 2003

Station	Past Week Weather Summary Data							Accumulation				
	Air Temperature				Precip.		Avg 4 in Soil Temp	April 1, 2003 thru June 29, 2003 Precipitation			GDD Base 50°F	
	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days		Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN
Northwest (1)												
Chalmers_5W	95	54	74	+1	0.02	1	77	13.23	+2.08	34	960	-148
Valparaiso_AP_I	92	54	74	+3	0.68	2		12.16	+0.26	33	850	-114
Wanatah	92	54	73	+3	0.89	2	77	12.55	+1.29	35	782	-127
Wheatfield	91	52	74	+3	1.48	3		13.77	+2.60	33	883	-58
Winamac	90	52	73	+3	0.70	3	76	10.54	-0.70	33	891	-109
North Central(2)												
Plymouth	91	55	73	+1	0.28	3		10.05	-1.67	32	827	-217
South_Bend	92	54	74	+3	0.13	3		10.94	-0.07	35	874	-69
Young_America	91	51	73	+2	0.37	2		10.10	-0.72	34	985	-25
Northeast (3)												
Columbia_City	90	50	72	+2	0.51	2	77	11.83	+0.72	42	851	-42
Fort_Wayne	90	53	72	-1	0.39	2		12.90	+2.61	32	875	-120
West Central (4)												
Greencastle	88	48	70	-5	0.06	2		10.53	-1.55	39	928	-254
Perrysville	92	54	74	+2	0.34	3	71	10.42	-1.55	32	1082	-9
Spencer_Ag	90	52	72	-2	0.21	2		11.95	-0.74	40	1054	-34
Terre_Haute_AFB	91	50	73	-2	0.01	1		9.70	-2.10	30	1143	-33
W_Lafayette_6NW	91	54	74	+2	0.20	3	78	12.49	+1.31	39	1017	+0
Central (5)												
Eagle_Creek_AP	88	55	73	-2	0.28	1		10.44	-0.62	32	1090	-74
Greenfield	89	54	72	-2	0.03	1		11.58	-0.11	37	1019	-76
Indianapolis_AP	88	53	73	-2	0.22	1		11.96	+0.90	32	1113	-51
Indianapolis_SE	88	53	73	-2	0.10	1		11.64	+0.36	32	1024	-114
Tipton_Ag	90	52	71	-2	0.28	2	76	12.34	+1.26	32	888	-85
East Central (6)												
Farmland	90	55	72	+0	1.08	2	73	10.10	-1.25	31	956	+18
New_Castle	86	51	68	-4	0.10	1		8.13	-4.16	32	804	-159
Southwest (7)												
Evansville	91	56	73	-4	0.37	1		14.81	+2.67	38	1313	-98
Freelandville	90	57	74	-2	0.03	2		14.58	+2.11	35	1188	-39
Shoals	91	55	73	-2	0.23	1		14.87	+1.60	34	1157	-18
Stendal	91	56	73	-3	0.22	1		16.28	+2.65	33	1249	-56
Vincennes_5NE	92	55	74	-2	0.06	2	74	15.39	+2.92	41	1216	-11
South Central(8)												
Leavenworth	90	55	71	-3	0.42	1		13.73	+0.30	40	1169	-7
Oolitic	89	53	71	-3	0.22	1	75	14.91	+2.27	41	1088	-18
Tell_City	91	59	74	-2	0.70	1		16.08	+2.52	31	1410	+88
Southeast (9)												
Brookville	91	52	72	-1	0.20	1		11.94	-0.01	36	1096	+78
Milan_5NE	89	55	72	+0	0.30	1		14.67	+2.72	48	1060	+42
Scottsburg	89	52	70	-5	0.25	1		16.25	+3.98	40	1113	-105

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period).
GDD = Growing Degree Days.
Precipitation (Rainfall or melted snow/ice) in inches.
Precipitation Days = Days with precip of .01 inch or more.
Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

DON. End-point grain buyers generally consider 2 ppm in whole grain to be a threshold above which the grain may be considered unusable for food products. If wheat is diverted to animal feed, the FDA advises that grain contain no more than 10 ppm DON if it is fed to cattle or chickens, and that the scabby grain makes up no more than 50% of the ration. Swine are particularly sensitive to DON. The name vomitoxin was coined after it was realized that eating scabby grain induced vomiting in swine, which can lead to feed refusal and loss of weight. Wheat used in swine feed should contain no more than 5 ppm DON and constitute at most 20% of the ration.

Scab is not the only problem afflicting wheat in Indiana. Leaf and glume blotch, caused by *Stagonospora nodorum*, is also severe in many fields, particularly in southern Indiana. *Stagonospora* infections cause premature leaf death and browning of heads. This fungus does not produce a toxin, but the premature killing of leaves and heads results in low yield and test weight.

Earlier, stripe rust was thriving in many wheat fields. This is a rust that normally does not appear in the Midwest. The cool, wet weather of May provided ideal conditions for this rust, and it has shown up in many wheat fields, but not to such extent as to cause serious reduction of yield or test weight. With the arrival of warm weather, the stripe rust lesions are drying up.

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The INDIANA CROP WEATHER REPORT (USPS 675-770), (ISSN 0442-817X) is issued weekly April through November by the Indiana Agricultural Statistics Service, 1435 Win Hentschel Blvd, Suite B105, West Lafayette IN 47906-4145. Second Class postage paid at Lafayette IN. For information on subscribing, send request to above address. POSTMASTER: Send address change to the Indiana Agricultural Statistics Service, 1435 Win Hentschel Blvd, Suite B105, West Lafayette IN 47906-4145.